

Issue NE-CW2603, released June 30, 2003, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending June 29, 2003, wheat harvest was making a start, although a week and a half behind normal, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers were busy ditching and laying out pipe in preparation for the start of the irrigation season. Monitoring of grasshopper populations continued.

This release is based on reports and data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Current county specific comments plus current and historic PDF files of Weather and Crop reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged below normals for the week and ranged from 2 to 10 degrees below normals. Precipitation was statewide with heaviest amounts occurring in central and northeast areas.

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 14 fair, 58 good, and 25 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated corn rated 83 percent good and excellent while dryland rated 82, both well above the 59 and 26 respectively of a year ago.

Soybean condition rated 2 percent poor, 17 fair, 63 good, and 18 excellent, above last year and average.

Sorghum condition rated 4 percent poor, 31 fair, 55 good, and 10 excellent, above last year and average. Ninety-seven percent of the fields had emerged. Last year emergence was complete with average at 98.

Wheat condition rated 4 percent very poor, 13 poor, 27 fair, 44 good, and 12 excellent, well above last year and the 5 year average. Wheat fields had turned color on 90 percent of the acreage, behind the 94 last year and near 89 average. Nine percent of the acreage was ripe, well behind last year at 56 and average at 36. Harvest had a limited start in southern counties, well behind last year at 23 and average at 14.

Proso millet was 97 percent seeded, ahead of last year’s planting progress at 92 percent.

Oat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 15 fair, 56 good, and 26 excellent, well above last year and average. The crop was 94 percent headed, behind the 96 percent last year but ahead of 92 average.

Dry bean condition rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 29 fair, 55 good, and 7excellent. Ninety-two percent of the fields had emerged, ahead of last year at 83 and average at 91.

Alfalfa condition rated 3 percent poor, 19 fair, 55 good, and 23 excellent, above last year and average. First cutting activities reached 98 percent complete, ahead of last year and average at 97. Second cutting activities progressed to 8 percent harvested, behind last year at 23 and average at 17. Wild hay condition rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 25 fair, 52 good, and 17 excellent.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 3 percent very poor, 10 poor, 33 fair, 43 good, and 11 excellent. Pastures continue to provide better grazing potential than last year and the 5 year average.

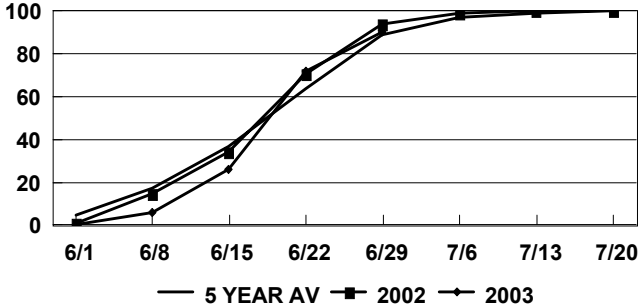
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as June 29, 2003

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Sorghum Emerged	¹	94	99	96	100	91	99	98	97	87	100	98
% Wheat Turning Color	77	99	87	98	90	99	97	99	90	72	94	89
% Wheat Ripe	0	0	7	6	3	16	14	22	9	1	56	36
% Wheat Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	23	14
% Oats Headed	77	100	93	100	94	100	100	100	94	91	96	92
% Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	91	100	100	99	100	100	100	100	98	93	97	97
% Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	1	0	5	5	15	11	17	33	8	2	23	17
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	5.9	4.8	4.5	4.3	5.2	5.7	5.1	3.5	4.9	5.2	6.8	5.6
Topsoil Moisture												
- % Very short	1	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	56	20
- % Short	22	12	18	0	15	32	9	3	15	18	34	25
- % Adequate	69	88	73	89	80	56	86	88	78	75	10	50
- % Surplus	8	0	5	11	5	7	5	9	6	6	0	5
Subsoil Moisture												
- % Very Short	8	0	2	0	5	9	4	1	4	6	53	22
- % Short	38	23	28	26	24	47	37	32	32	33	37	23
- % Adequate	54	77	70	73	71	41	59	61	63	60	10	52
- % Surplus	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	6	1	1	0	3

¹ Data unavailable.

WHEAT

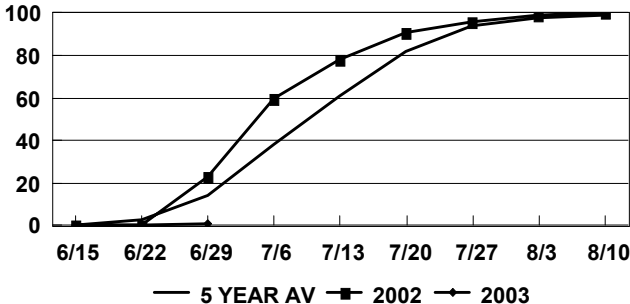
% TURNING COLOR



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

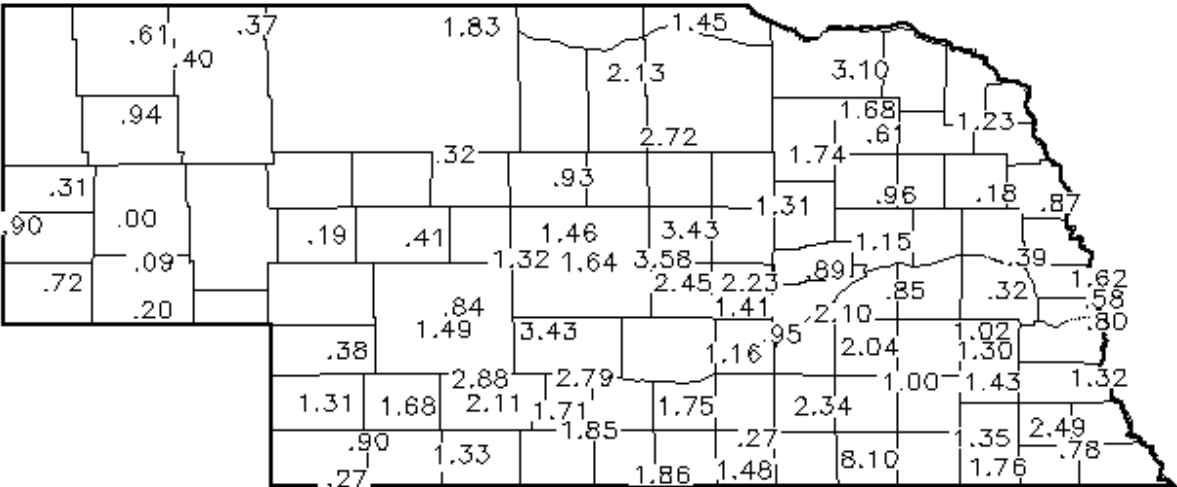
WHEAT

% HARVESTED



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending June 29, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - June 29, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.56	1.84	1.37	1.91	1.12	1.52	2.01	2.64
Total since April 1	7.46	10.48	11.44	13.67	12.25	11.14	12.35	14.32
Normal since April 1	7.56	8.87	10.50	9.86	10.93	8.59	9.52	10.93
Total as % of normal	98%	119%	108%	139%	112%	129%	130%	131%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, June 29, 2003

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	84	42	59	-10	77	743	877
	Scottsbluff	88	42	62	-7	91	899	876
	Sidney	88	42	62	-8	91	781	899
NC	Ainsworth	88	47	66	-6	113	853	973
	Arthur	86	44	63	-8	99	774	949
	O'Neill	90	45	67	-6	119	842	1029
NE	Concord	89	51	69	-4	131	877	1059
	Elgin	91	47	69	-4	133	872	1061
	West Point	92	50	72	-3	146	931	1131
C	Grand Island	92	48	70	-4	136	954	1079
	Lexington	91	50	70	-3	135	976	1058
	Ord	91	46	68	-5	124	897	1068
EC	Lincoln	92	51	73	-3	155	1022	1195
	Central City	90	47	70	-4	140	975	1098
	Mead	91	51	72	-3	152	983	1176
SW	Champion	92	46	69	-3	129	917	981
	North Platte	93	43	67	-5	121	922	992
	Curtis	96	49	70	-2	132	992	1012
SC	Arapahoe	86	40	62	-9	99	790	943
	Minden	94	50	70	-3	134	985	1062
	Red Cloud	94	50	72	-2	145	1001	1095
SE	Beatrice	91	50	72	-4	148	1030	1195
	Clay Center	91	47	71	-3	140	955	1091
	Nemaha	91	51	73	-2	156	1104	1230

Source: High Plains Climate Center.